July-August 2008 Volume 2 Issue 7

The CHESS Club for Providers

A Monthly Update for Users of Carolina's Health Electronic Surveillance System

All About STDs and More

This Summer it is all about what you need to know about reporting STDs & HIV into CHESS. We are dedicating this entire issue to focusing on key points and topics that are essential in submitting complete STD & HIV disease reports.

Since March, we have open the gates and flooded CHESS with STD & HIV morbidity and laboratory disease reports. Great! If you have additional questions regarding STD & HIV reporting, call Stacy Cohen at 803-898-4606 or the CHESS/CARES Help Desk at 1-800-917-2093. You can also email the help desk at CHESSCARESIR@dhec.sc.gov



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In The Spotlight "Syphilis, primary or secondary"

CHESS Condition: Syphilis, primary or secondary (lesion or rash)

Clinical Description:

Primary: A stage of infection with *Treponema pallidum* characterized by one or more chancres (ulcers); chancres might differ considerably in clinical appearance.

Secondary: A stage of infection caused by *T. pallidum* and characterized by localized or diffuse mucocutaneous lesions, often with generalized lymphadenopathy. The primary chancre may still be present.

Laboratory criteria for confirmed and probable diagnosis:

Syphilis Primary

Probable: a clinically compatible case with one or more ulcers (chancres) consistent with primary syphilis and a reactive serologic test (nontreponemal: Venereal Disease Research Laboratory [VDRL] or rapid plasma reagin [RPR]; treponemal: fluorescent treponemal antibody absorbed [FTA-ABS] or microhemagglutination assay for antibody to *T. pallidum* [MHA-TP])

Confirmed: a clinically compatible case that is laboratory confirmed

Syphillis Secondary

Probable: a clinically compatible case with a nontreponemal (VDRL or RPR) titer greater than or equal to 4

Confirmed: a clinically compatible case that is laboratory confirmed

REPORTING:

Primary and Secondary Syphilis are reportable within **24 hours** by phone in South Carolina. Please see the 2008 List of Reportable Conditions for more information: http://www.scdhec.gov/health/disease/docs/reportable_conditions.pdf

Things To Remember

Please log into CHESS at least once a month, even if you don't have a disease to report. This keeps your account active and lets us know that you are still able to get in. If you have trouble logging in, please let us know right away. We can correct the problem and having you using CHESS again in no time.

If you or someone in your facility leaves or will no longer need CHESS, please let us know right away. For security, we need to deactivate the accounts of anyone who is no longer using CHESS.



Don't Let This Happen To You

CHESS will send a pop-up window to warn you when you have 2 minutes left before timing out.



To keep you from loosing the information you've entered into a Morbidity or Lab report, it's important that you:

Click Submit when you have completed the disease report.

**Unfortunately, continuing to type will NOT stop your session from timing out.

Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs) Chlamydia - Gonorrhea - Syphilis By Stacey Cohen

The HIV/AIDS and STD Surveillance Program at the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) is excited to begin working with the CHESS system for STD case and lab record reporting. As we venture into this new era of electronic reporting, there are several important aspects to address, to ensure accuracy, appropriateness and completeness of disease reporting.

Remember! Reporting of STDs through CHESS should be considered identical to the paper reporting method. The key aspect to remember is: *To Report the Same Information as Paper Reporting*.

Therefore, accuracy and completeness in reporting benefits CHESS providers because it eliminates the need for health department staff to provide follow-up visits with providers.

We understand your time is valuable and for that reason, it is our goal to maximize efficiency in reporting while increasing the quality of the data submitted.



What's Been Missing? By Stacey Cohen

The Surveillance Program has been noticing some vital pieces of information missing in the Morbidity and Lab Reports being submitted through CHESS. Some fields are above and beyond the fields marked as "required" in CHESS, but are required for STD reporting.

Critical information often missing from reports:

Demographic Information

Patient Name (First and Last), Age, Sex, Date of Birth, SSN (if available) Complete Address information, Race, and Ethnicity

Epidemiological Information

Pregnancy Status

Laboratory Information Disease Being Reported

Specimen Collection Date and Specific Test(s) Ordered/Performed/Resulted

*Note: This information is need for both Lab Reports and when Chlamydia and Gonorrhea are being reported using the Morbidity Report

Complete Test Results

Specimen Type (blood, cervical, urethra, etc.), Numerical (Quantitative) information, and Qualitative/Coded information

Complete Treatment Information

Treatment Date and Treatment Type (e.g. prescription given)

*Note: If using a Lab Report, treatment information can be entered in any of the following fields: Text Result, Result Comments, or Administrative (section) Comments.

What does a COMPLETE Test Result look like? By Stacey Cohen

Several Examples of Complete Test Information

Syphilis Example 1 (Morbidity Report):

06/10/2008 (specimen collection date)
Treponema pallidum Antibodies (FTA-ABS)
(resulted test)
Vaginal culture (specimen type)
Positive (qualitative/coded result)
Be sure to click on [Add Lab Report] Button

Syphilis Example 2 (Lab Report):

06/10/2008 (specimen collection date)
RPR (resulted test)
Vaginal Culture (specimen type)
Reactive (qualitative/coded result)
Titer 1:32 (numerical result)
Condition = Syphilis (result comment condition being reported)
Be sure to click on [Add Test Result] Button

Syphilis Example 3 (Lab Report)

06/10/2008 (specimen collection date)
Syphilis (Treponema pallidum) Culture
(ordered test - also indicated the condition
being reported)
Genital Cervix (specimen source)
Treponema pallidum Antibodies (FTA-ABS)
(resulted test)
Positive (qualitative/coded result)
Click on [Add Test Result] Button

Chlamydia Example:

06/10/2008 (specimen collection date)
Chlamydia DNA Probe (resulted test)
Urethra culture (specimen type)
Positive (qualitative/coded result)
Click on [Add Lab Report/Test Result]
Button

Chlamydia OR Gonorrhea (Morbidity Report):

06/10/2008 (specimen collection date)
Chlamydia DNA Probe (resulted test)
Urethra culture (specimen type)
Positive (qualitative/coded result)
Click on [Add Lab Report] Button

06/10/2008 (specimen collection date)
Neisseria Gonnorrhoeae RNA (test)
Urethra Culture (specimen type)
Abnormal (qualitative/coded result)
Click on [Add Lab Report] Button

Gonorrhea Example:

06/10/2008 (specimen collection date)
Neisseria Gonnorrhoeae RNA (test)
Urethra Culture (specimen type)
Abnormal (qualitative/coded result)
Click on [Add Lab Report/Test Result]
Button

CHESS LIVE—Complete Listing of Providers

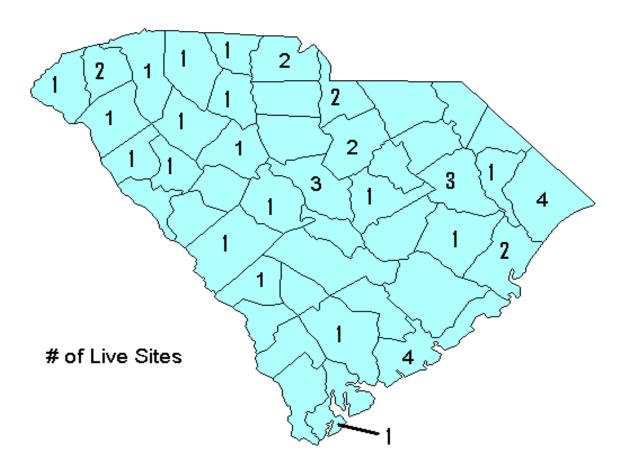
Currently 42 healthcare facilities are using CHESS!

- Aiken Regional Medical Center
- AnMed Health
- Abbeville County Hospital
- Barnwell County Hospital
- Benedict College
- + Cannon Memorial Hospital
- + Carolina Hospital System
- Carolina Infectious Disease &
 Critical Care Associates
- Charleston Air Force Base
- Coastal Carolina University
- Colleton Hospital
- + Columbia College
- Conway Hospital
- Crossroads Family Practice & Urgent Care
- East Cooper Regional Medical Center
- + Eau Claire Cooperative Health Center
- + Georgetown Memorial Hospital
- Grand Strand Regional Medical Center
- Kershaw County Medical Center
- Lake City Memorial Hospital
- + Laurens County Hospital
- Lifepoint, Inc.
- Loris Community Hospital
- + Marion County Medical Center
- + MUSC Family Medicine
- + New Day Family Practice
- Newberry County Memorial Hospital
- North Central Family Medical Center
- + Oconee Memorial Hospital

- Palmetto Baptist Easley
- Parris Island Preventive Medicine
- + Pee Dee Family Practice
- Self Memorial Hospital
- Sentinel Health Partners (Elgin)
- + Shaw Air Force Base
- Spartanburg Regional Medical
- Three Rivers Behavioral Health
- + Upstate Carolina Medical Center
- Wallace Thompson Hospital
- Williamsburg Regional Hospital
- Winthrop University
- Waccamaw Community Hospital



CHESS LIVE-AROUND THE STATE



CHESS is an excellent tool! If you know of others that may be interested in the CHESS system, please have them contact us at:

CHESS Help Desk: 1-800-917-2093



HAVE QUESTIONS? WE'VE GOT ANSWERS



Are there any CHESS questions you would like answered? If so, please email your questions to: CHESSCARESIR@dhec.sc.gov. We will feature your questions in the next issue of CHESS Club for Providers newsletter.

Question: If I enter a HIV/STD report into CHESS, where will it go and who

will see this information?

Answer: When a record is entered into CHESS, it is assigned to it's program

area within the Division of HIV and STD. We have special "program areas" for Hepatitis, HIV/AIDS, STDs, and all other conditions. When that happens, only people who have permission to view this program area will be able to see the report. HIV/AIDS records, for example, can only be seen by a couple of database administrators and the HIV/AIDS staff. This way, any HIV/STD data you report is kept

confidential.

Question: I've noticed that CHESS has more fields and requires a lot more

information than the disease reporting cards. Do I have to complete

every single field in CHESS?

Answer: One of CHESS' best features is, not only being able to provide a full

report on the data that is normally submitted via the disease reporting

card, but providing customized fields to enter more clinical &

epidemiological data. The more data you have in a disease report, the more evidence DHEC has to investigate and determine if the disease is a confirmed case. However, there is no need to search for additional

information unless it is necessary for the disease report.

By The Numbers — South Carolina 2008 So Far

Condition	Confirmed	Probable	Total
Animal Bite—PEP Recommended	255		255
Aseptic meningitis	42		42
Botulism, Infant	1		1
Brucellosis	1	1	2
Campylobacteriosis	137		137
Ciguatera fish poisoning			
Cryptosporidiosis	27	1	28
Cyclosporiasis			-
Dengue Fever			
Ehrlichiosis- human granulocytic			
Ehrlichiosis- human monocytic			
Ehrlichiosis- human- other&unspec			
Encephalitis- West Nile			
Enterohem. E.coli O157:H7	1		1
Enterohem.E.coli shigatox+- ?serogrp	1		1
Giardiasis	70		70
Group A Streptococcus- invasive	36		36
Group B Streptococcus- invasive	25		25
Haemophilus influenzae- invasive	32	1	33
Hemolytic uremic synd- postdiarrheal	JZ	I	33
Hepatitis A- acute	7		7
Hepatitis B- acute	36		36
Hepatitis B virus infection—Chronic	58	272	330
Hepatitis B virus infection—Perinatal	50	212	33U
,	2		2
Hepatitis C Virus Infection, past or present	2470	98	2568
Hepatitis C Virus Infection- past or present	24/0	90	∠306
Hepatitis Delta co- or super-infection- acute			
Hepatitis E- acute	OE 4		054
Influenza- human isolates	254		254
Legionellosis	8		8
Listeriosis	3	-	3
Lyme disease	6	5	11
Malaria	5		5
Mumps	45	4	40
Neisseria meningitidis- invasive (Mening. disease)	15	1	16
Pertussis	56	9	65
Rocky Mountain spotted fever	4	15	19
S. aureus, vancomycin intermediate susc (VISA)	765		
Salmonellosis	509	-	509
Shiga toxin-producing Escherichia coli (STEC)	19	3	22
Shigellosis	384	10	394
Strep pneumoniae- invasive	351		351
Streptococcal disease- invasive- other	1		1
Tetanus			
Toxic-shock syndrome- staphylococcal			
Varicella (Chickenpox)	313	237	550
Vibrio parahaemolyticus	1		1
Vibrio spp non-toxigenic- other or unspecified	2		2
Vibrio vulnificus infection	2		2
West Nile Fever			
Yersiniosis	3		3

The Bulletin Board

Save the Date

Are you hosting an event? Are there any events you would like to see posted? Is there an event you would like the CARES IR/CHESS training team to attend? If so, please send event information to:

CHESSCARESIR@dhec.sc.gov
Or call the CHESS/CARES IR Help Desk at 1-800-917-2093

Keep In Touch

~The Help Desk ~

Your input is important to us! So please call us with your comments and suggestions. If you need to add new users we are here to support your CHESS use. If you have a questions, your CHESS training team is only a phone call away!

Ring the Help Desk Line @ 1-800-917-2093

CHESSCARESIR@dhec.sc.gov

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Please note: The help desk will be closed for the 4th of July holiday.

